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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7735**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1797

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 26, 2007

**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 23, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Academic Achievement.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Porter

**FIRST SPONSOR:** Sen. Lubbers

**BILL STATUS:** As Passed House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) *Academic Achievement Assistance (AAA) Program*- The bill requires the Department of Education (Department) to develop guidelines and the State Board to adopt rules concerning the Academic Achievement Assistance (AAA) Program based on effective practices to improve student achievement.

*School Guidance Counselors*- The bill provides that a student's guidance counselor is required to make only a reasonable effort to consult with the student's parent concerning the student's career plan before an annual review of the plan.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2007.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** *Academic Achievement Assistance (AAA) Program*- The bill would establish the AAA Pilot Program. The Department reports that up to three full-time positions may be needed to provide assistance to eligible schools in development of curriculum and instructional strategies. The maximum estimated cost for those positions would be approximately \$300,000 for salary, fringe benefits, and travel expense.

The impact of the pilot grants to state expenditures would depend on the number of schools applying and the amount of grants awarded. Schools would be able to apply for grants to fund their AAA program. The Department would award grants to the schools.

The source of funding for the pilot program would be subject to appropriation or reallocation of existing resources within the Department of Education. The Department reverted \$3.3 M back to the state General

Fund at the close of FY 2006. As of February 21, 2007, the Department had 89 full-time vacancies with a salary value of \$971,800.

*Background Information-* The schools eligible to apply for a pilot grant, under the bill, would be middle or junior high schools that are in the lowest category of school improvement (academic probation.)

If one of the eligible schools were to establish a AAA program plan, the plan would have to include options for additional instructional activities of either:

- a) an additional 1.5 hours of instruction time per school day or;
- b) up to 20 additional instructional days added to the school year.

In addition, a program plan would have to include an additional ten instructional days for teachers to focus on the specific curriculum and instructional strategies implemented by the school to review and improve the school curriculum and instruction.

The potential amount of grants awarded could range from \$0 (if none of the eligible schools were to apply) to maximum of \$45.9 M if all schools applied and received a grant. This bill does not make an appropriation for the grants.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** *(See Explanation of State Expenditures)* The bill would allow qualifying schools that establish a AAA pilot program to apply for a grant from the Department.

**State Agencies Affected:** Department of Education.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Schools.

**Information Sources:** Dr. Robert Dalton, Department of Education, 232-6671, DOE DATABASES; *Public Law 221 Corporation and School Category Placements Presented to: Indiana State Board of Education, August 9, 2006; State of Indiana List of Appropriations, July 1, 2005-June 30, 2007.*

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